MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kadharsha, you have asked enough questions. I will go to the next question, No. 209.

SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Let the Minister reply. Then you go to another question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. I do not want that you should unnecessarily acerbate feelings on this matter. I do not think that the question needs an answer. I go to the next question No. 209.

*209. [*The qutstioner (Shri Basudeb Mohapatra) was absent. For answer*, vide *cols.* 40 infra]

Government Scheme on Eye Donation

*210. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have been taken by Government to encourage eye donation pledges by the people;

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated to motivate the Government employees, the employees of the Public sector Undertakings and the workers of other organised sectors to pledge their eyes for donation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPRADE): (a) to (c) Radio and Television media network is being utilised to educate the people and to create awareness among them about the need for eye donation. Government employees like general public are also included in this programme.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: My specific question was with regard to the Government employees, employees of the public sector undertakings and other workers of the organised sector. I am aware that these categories of people are included in the general public, and if there is a programme for general public, it is meant for them also. That is not the thrust of the question. The thrust of the question was: has there been any motivational programme or scheme formulated by the Government in order to motivate these different sections of the population?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Rest of the answer would have to be that we have not made a special programme for Government employees. We have made a programme for everyone in this country. Therefore, we thought there is no need for any special groups to be approached in this. In fact, Government employees are even more motivated than the common people. So, if there is any need for motivation, it is for the ignorant people, people in the villages, who do not know that this could be done, rather than the Government employees who already know almost everything about it.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Is the Government satisfied that a problem of this proportion could be immediately met by creating radio and TV media network? Are they also thinking in terms of creating certain incentive schemes for those who would like to pledge their eyes for the future?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: At the movement we do not have any national incentive scheme. We have to appeal to the people. If one agrees to donate his eye it is something which is to take place after a long time. So, it is not possible to build incentives into this. But, if there are any specific suggestions by hon. Members I am prepared to consider them.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: One distinction that the eye donation has from other types of donations is that the actual donation is made after the death. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what has been the experience in this regard, particularly regarding the objections raised by the heirs of the deceased and other family members when actually the eyes have to be taekn out.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: This may be happening in some cases. I don't say it has not happened, but the point is

that by and large it has worked well, although the numbers are not as much as we wish them to be. On the other hand there is always a danger that in the case of two parts of the same body being available to a person, money is offered to part with one. He lives with one eye, one kidney and like that. This is becoming a racket. That needs to be really guarded against.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : सभापति महोदय, नेत्र-दान शब्द सुनने में और काम में बहुत उपयोगी और पुण्य का काम है लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि वास्तव में सम्पूर्ण हिन्दुस्तान में वार्षिक रूप में कितने लोगों ने नेत्र-[illegible] किया और एक साल में कितने लोगों ने नेत्र-दान प्राप्त किया इस सवाल का दूसरा पार्ट मैं इसलिए जोड़ना चाहता हूं कि आज देश में कितने ऐसे लोग है जिनको नेत्रदान द्वारा आंखों की आवश्यकता है और एक साल में कितनी आखें आपको मिल सकती हैं ?

कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे: माननीय सदस्य ने जो सवाल पूछा है उसके जवाब में मैं आंकड़े देने की कोशिश करूंगी । During 1985, 2617 were donated and till August 1986, the number is 1,962.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : श्रीमन्, मैंने दो तरह का सवाल पूछा था कि कितना दान हुआ और कितनी आखें आपको मिली । बांसल जी ने भी यह सवाल उठाया कि आवश्यकता कितनी है । जो रिपोर्ट है वह इनकरेजिंग रिपोर्ट नहीं है । (**व्यवधान**)

कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे : मैंने यह पहले ही जवाब दिया है कि 1985 में 2617 का और अगस्त, 1986 तक 1962 का नेत्रदान हुआ ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, please hear me. The quesion is, this is a donation. How many have been actually received and how many are required for this country? What proportion does it satisfy?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, presumably these were the eyes actually obtained. However, I would like to check it up. I am not quite sure about it. But it is not just signing a paper of donation. The number must be much more. but I will check up.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : इससे मोटी-वेशन का पता लगेगा ।

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : हां, हां । पुण्य का तो काम है लेकिन कौन करता है ।

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: May I know from the Minister whether there are any definite, concrete and fool-proof systems laid down about the donation of eyes? Because every day we find in the newspapers announcements about eye donations. I also want to know whether the State Governments have laid down any definite procedure for follow-up and all that. Whether medical colleges are doing or who is doing it?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, you see, nothing definite can be laid down. The procedure is there. But the point is signing of paper does not mean anything if he dies under circumstances in which his eyes cannot be obtained. It has to be obtained within a few hours or so after the death. So all these ifs and buts are there. It is not going to be easy to get the eyes actually in several cases of donation. Nothing more can be done by way of tightening the rules or tightening the procedures. But if there is anything I could certainly look into it. But I don't think there is much leeway there.

SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Sir, may I know from the Minister, out of the eyes donated by the persons, how many of them were transplanted and what is the result of that transplantation?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I tell you, Sir, I am a little doubtful about that. Whether figures given by my colleague are actually obtained from them or only donated, we will have to check it up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many have been transplanted?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: They must have been transplanted. After obtaining them, they don't throw them away.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*211. [*The questioners (Shri Ram Awadhesh Singh and Shri Talari Manohar) were absent. For answer,* vide cols. 40-41 infra].

National Highways in Rajasthan

*212. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of the National Highways in Rajasthan is deplorable;

(b) whether any study in this regard has been conducted; if so, what are the detalls thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) National Highways in Rajasthan are being maintained in traffic-worthy condition. The development of National Highways is a continuous process and the same are being upgraded depending upon the availability of resources and *inter-se* priority of works on an all-India basis.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, it is easy to say that condition of the National Highways in Rajasthan is not deplorable. But our experience shows it is very much different because if we pass through National Highways which connects Rajasthan with other states concurrently, I find the moment we reach the Rajasthan border, the moment we finish in that particular portion, the condition of the roadways are very, very bad. I wish some day the Minister will be able to see with me. This is the only thing I wanted to tell the Minister.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, the hon. Member is right to some extent. We have felt that some of the States are not paying that due attention which is required for National Highways and also we have received complaints that resources are not fully utilised in the proper way. That is why, the Centre is thinking to have a National Highways authority so that it can improve the National Highways conditions. This is an important sector of the traffic and do have a direct bearing on the economic conditions and other things. We are planning to have a National Highways so that these works could be executed by Central Government agencies and we can monitor them. Today the system is we are allotting funds to the States and they use these funds in their own discretion and their own way. The monitoring could not be that much effective. So I do share his feelings and the Government is taking action in that direction.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: No, Sir.

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Sir, may I know from the Minister regarding the progress of Baroda-Ahmedabad Autobahn project?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, this is a very important project and it is for the first time in this country we have taken up express ways. We have initiated that project. I myself had gone to the site and I think four months back or so, the work has started. We are monitoring that work and it is going to be one of the prestigious projects for the National Highways. The Government is fully aware of the importance and it is one of the projects which has been included in the world Bank aid. So we will see that it is completed in due time and proper work is done.

*213. [*The questioner (Shri Yalla Sesi Bhushana Rao) was absent. For answer,* vide *cols.* 41-42 infra.]